

Hawaii MARINE SPORTS

HAWAII MARINE C SECTION

APRIL 29, 2005

MAG-24 champs

Cpl. Nathan C. Benson
Contributing Writer

The MAG-24 Black Sox and the Knights of Headquarters Battalion squared off Monday and Tuesday for the first two games of the best-of-three intramural baseball championship series.

As it turned out, two games were all the Black Sox would need, as the high-powered offense of MAG-24 made for a lopsided 23-8 win Monday night, followed Tuesday night by an equally dominant pitching performance by Larry Drake and David Fults to put the Sox on top 9-1 to take the series.



Sgt. Joseph A. Lee

Jared Rigby (right), MAG-24 pitcher, celebrates the victory with his teammates Tuesday night after the winning play sealed up the series.

Game one started with a lead-off home run by Rory Chapin on the second pitch of the bottom of the first inning, followed by a free trip to first base for Kenny Coquillard after being hit by a pitch. A single by Joseph Dunn then set up a three-run home run by clean-up hitter Sean O'Connor. Logan Carraway, Louis Overstreet, and Joseph Rollins also scored in the inning, putting MAG-24 up 7-0 heading into the second frame. Headquarters Battalion produced some offense of their own in the second, scoring four runs off of three walks, a double and a single to cut the MAG lead to within three. The Sox came back in the third with singles by Coquillard and Dunn, just in time for O'Connor to contribute one more three-run homer to put the Sox up 10-4. The Knights added one more run in the third, with two walks and two singles, two more in the fourth and one in the sixth. MAG-24 combined for 19 hits on the night. Sean O'Connor went three for five with six runs batted in. Joseph Dunn was four for five with four RBIs. Starting pitcher Jared Rigby picked up the win, saving Drake to start Tuesday's game.

"We are really having troubles in our bullpen," admitted Knights coach, Ubaldo Trujillo. "Going into the second game, we are just hoping to bring a better attitude onto the field to give MAG the best challenge we can give them. We're thankful to be here just to play in the championship series, and I want to thank a friend of mine, Mr. Patoya, for donating our uniforms this year."

Tuesday's game two featured less total runs, but more of the same from MAG and starting pitcher Larry Drake, who has been the "ace" of their pitching squad all year, though the intramural scene hasn't seen much of him. Recently selected,

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Sgt. Joseph A. Lee

'Up the creek without a paddle'

Above — The leader of the "Swampaholics" shoots up a "shaka" as he treads through the deep mud of the Nuupia Ponds. Wearing blue bandannas, the Swampaholics, like most teams, traveled together during the race so that they finished together during Combat Service Support Group 3's 11th Annual JN Chevrolet Swamp Romp, Saturday. With just under 1,200 competitors, the Swamp Romp is known as Oahu's muddiest foot race and attracts military and civilian competitors from around the island to join together to "be a Marine for a day." Teams of six competed against one another in several categories, and some were dressed the part, wearing some pretty fantastic outfits throughout the entire race.

Left — John W. McJunkin (left), pay non-commissioned officer, tries to submerge Dwight Perkins, a lifeguard lieutenant with the city and county of Honolulu, in the thick mud of the Nuupia Ponds. For the past 11 years, CSSG-3 has hosted the Swamp Romp as their premier source for raising funds for their Marine Corps Ball. The course was just under 5 miles, and included several muddy ravines, low-crawls on the beach, machinegun blasts, log obstacles, and even a wade in the Pacific Ocean. A sunny day on the Windward side made Saturday's race that much more enjoyable for the participants, and according to Regina Reiche of Marine Corps Community Services, Saturday's race went off "without a hitch," as competitors got exactly what they came for — dirty. For the full story, see page C-4.



Sgt. Joseph A. Lee

Athlete of the Year takes gold

**Lance Cpl.
Karim D. Delgado**
Combat Correspondent

MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP FOSTER, OKINAWA, Japan — He focuses on his opponent with a fierce look of determination in his eyes. A cold drop of sweat sounds like thunder as it hits the familiar blue mat. Carefully circling within the ring, he is part wrestler, part warrior and all Marine.

Cpl. Jacob Clark, 26, a traffic management specialist with the Traffic Management Office here, spends the majority of his time wrestling as a part of the Marine Corps Sports Program.

Clark came back from the Armed Forces Wrestling Championships April 8 with two gold medals in the 84-kilogram weight class from both the Greco-Roman and freestyle sessions.

He went straight to work at TMO the next day.

"I'm a Marine first and foremost," explained Clark, standing at 5 feet 10 inches, 185 pounds. "If I'm not out there wrestling and representing the Marine Corps, I'm performing the duties my job demands of me."

Clark, a South St. Paul, Minn., native, credits his interest in wrestling to his older brother's influence on him in his early childhood.

"When I was four, I would go to my brother's wrestling tournaments and try to wres-

tle the other participants' little brothers," laughed Clark with fond memory. "Growing up in Minnesota, wrestling was a huge thing. I was pushed into the wrestling world and grew into it naturally."

Clark was recently selected as the Marine Male Athlete of the Year for 2004. He will accept his award in Quantico, Va., later this year.

Clark said he takes wrestling very seriously and is honored to represent the Marine Corps in competitions.

"It's not just a sport; it's a lifestyle," Clark stated, as he tugged at his red, swollen ears. "It's a grueling thing, and a lot of [wrestlers] feel the tradition behind it. It's like I'm carrying on something that's been here since before, well, all of us."

One of Clark's most cherished "trophy" is not made from metal, but are his ears, which he calls a "wrestler's trademark."

"Cauliflower ears are the call sign of any true wrestler," Clark laughed. "If I meet somebody new, the first thing I'll do is look at their ears. It's instant, like, 'Oh, you too?'"

Clark's command is very supportive of his wrestling ambitions, but Clark doesn't expect any special treatment for his unique position, said Staff Sgt. Omar Valdez, staff non-commissioned officer in charge of outgoing traffic at TMO here.

"Wrestlers have drive and a will to succeed, but so do Marines," Valdez said. "In our

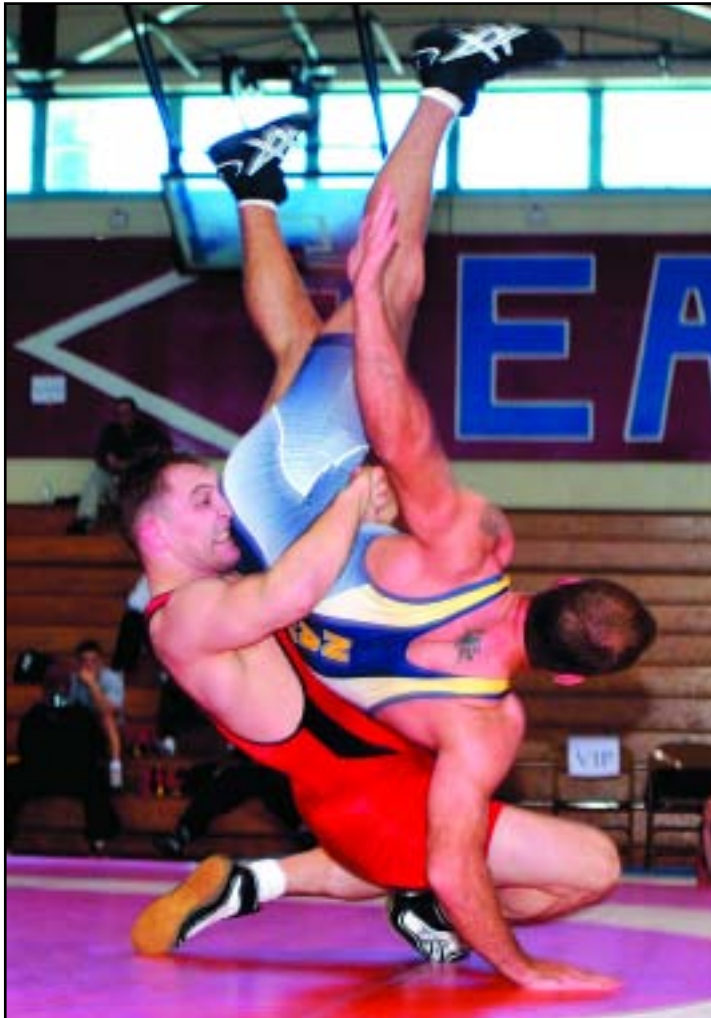
office, Clark works just like any other Marine - he works well."

Clark was also an alternate for the 2004 Olympic games in Athens. His goal is to someday participate in the

Olympics, he enthusiastically explained.

"I'm just going to keep trying until I make it," Clark stated. "I'm confident I'll get

See CLARK, C-6



Lance Cpl. Lydia L. Collison

Marines Corps wrestler, Cpl. Jacob Clark (in red), takes down US Navy wrestler Joseph Axiotis to win the gold medal at the 2004 Armed Forces Wrestling Championships held at Archbishop Rummel High School, New Orleans, La. March 6, 2004.



Sgt. Joseph A. Lee

Larry Drake uses his high leg kick to assist him in obtaining the power he is known for possessing on the mound. Drake was chosen last year by Lloyd Dawson, head coach for the All-Marine team, to compete for the Marines in an all-service league that was comprised of the Army, Navy and Air Force. The games took place in San Diego from April to the last week in July, 2004. After pitching in the winning game of the league championship against the Navy on July 28, 2004, Drake was chosen as one of three people picked from approximately one hundred players to represent this league at an all-star game in Wichita, Kan. According to MCCS Sports, Dawson has chosen Drake to pitch for the All-Marine team this coming season and wants him to help with the younger pitchers as an assistant pitching coach for the team.

BASE SPORTS

Saturday

Sunday

10k Run Aboard MCB Hawaii — You still have time to register for the 12th Annual 3rd Marines 10k run, happening Saturday aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay. This race is open to the public, and begins and finishes at the Pop Warner Field.

The course winds throughout the base, that overlooks the beautiful Kaneohe Bay. For the shorter-paced runners, there will be a 1-mile Family Fun Run to take place after the 10k, at no charge to families. Day-of-event registration fees are \$20 for individual runners and \$100 per 10-runner formation.

This race is part of the Commanding General's Semper Fit Series and runners in formation will receive points for participation.

Pick up registration forms or race packets (for runners already registered) at the Semper Fit Center between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. today. All competitors under the age of 18 must have a waiver signed by a parent or guardian.

For further information, please contact MCCS Athletics at 254-7590 or the Semper Fit Center at 254-7597.

Paintball Tournament — Team captains of five-person, randomly drawn teams, will meet at 8 a.m. at the Lemon Lot for a paintball showdown. Equipment rental is \$30, and all-day air is an additional \$20 during tournament play. Paintballs must be purchased on the field only, and payment is to be made on the day of the tournament.

To register, send an e-mail to pbhawaii@paintballhawaii.com. For additional information, call Paintball Hawaii at 265-4283.

Kaneohe Bay Pool Opens — The Kaneohe Base Pool will re-open Sunday after being closed for resurfacing. The Kaneohe Base Pool will be open for normal operational hours which are: Saturdays, Sundays and holidays from noon to 5 p.m., closed on Mondays and open Tuesday through Friday from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. for lap swimming, 1 to 5 p.m. for recreational swimming and from 5 to 6 p.m. for lap swimming. Call MCCS Aquatics at 254-7655 for additional information.

Tuesday

Intramural Soccer Coaches Meeting — For those interested in coaching an intramural soccer team, there will be a coaches meeting at the Semper Fit Center Basketball Gym on Tuesday at 2 p.m. The league will begin on May 23. Call 254-7591 for more information.

Wednesday

Intramural Volleyball Coaches Meeting — For those interested in coaching an intramural volleyball team, there will be a coaches meeting at the Semper Fit Center Basketball Gym on Wednesday at 2 p.m. The league will begin on May 23. Call 254-7591 for more information.

May 14

Kaneohe Bay Summer Splash — Join the MCCS Aquatics crew for the 2005 Spring Splash to be held on May 14 at the newly renovated Kaneohe Bay Base Pool, from noon to 4 p.m. It's free to military, family

members, DoD civilians and reservists.

Enjoy music, games, athletic demonstrations and more with numerous other events. Kids can take introductory lessons to snorkeling and surfing and watch awesome demonstrations. The Summer Splash will have swim lesson signups and information ready for parents interested in enrolling their children. To get in on the water action, call MCCS Aquatics at 254-7655.

May 20

One Hundred and One Days of Summer — Give or take one or two days, this is the period of time we all know as summer. Memorial Day and Labor Day unofficially bookend this most popular season filled with fun and sun.

For the Marines and Sailors of MCB Hawaii, 101 Days of Summer means flag football, races, Bayfest, and volunteer opportunities, all with the goal of beating other units to the top of the summer heap. The 101 Days of Summer Campaign began as a letter from the commandant on drug reduction.

The goal of the program is to offer healthy alternatives to drug and alcohol use. It has worked.

Last year's positive urinalysis tests were down 24 percent from the previous year during the 101 Days of Summer campaign. Last year's top three units were MAL5-24, MCAF and Headquarters Battalion, in that order.

This year, who knows? Go for it. The 101 Days of Summer kicks off this year with a 5k run, May 20. For complete information on the 101

Days of Summer schedule for 2005 contact Dan Dufrene, the MCCS Health Promotions Coordinator at 254-7636.

May 21

MAG 24 Triathlon Hits Kaneohe Bay — Run, bike or swim to MCB Hawaii for the 9th Annual MAG-24 Sprint Triathlon.

This hard-core event includes a 500-meter swim, an 11.1-mile bike leg, and concludes with a 3.5-mile run. Check in is at 5:30 a.m. at the Base Marina pier. Military registration is \$22 and civilian fee is \$27. Three-person team fee is \$66. The early registration deadline is May 13. Late fee is \$3 for individuals and \$9 for teams.

Call the Semper Fit Center at 254-7597 or stop by to register.

Ongoing

Camp Smith Intramural Softball Registration Now — Camp Smith

Athletics is currently accepting registrations for the Intramural Softball League. The league will begin on June 13.

Game days and schedules will be announced in the near future. Submit your team rosters to Camp Smith's Fitness Center, located in Building 2C,, or call Angela Pittman at 477-0498 or 477-5197.

Semper Fit Center Offers Personal Trainers — For those looking to get in to a tailored exercise regiment, or for those just looking for some good advice on weight management and control, the Semper Fit Center offers free Personal Training consultation.

You can schedule an appointment with a trainer, who will take body fat, blood pressure, heart rate readings and more, and tailor a program based on your physical needs and ambitions. For only \$5 per workout, your trainer will actually train with you to ensure maximum efficiency.

Pick up a personal training appointment card at the Semper Fit Center now, or call 254-7597.

Aerobics Room Gets a Little Cooler — The Aerobics room at the Kaneohe Bay Semper Fit Center is getting a facelift! Air conditioners will be installed, which will impact class schedules.

The renovations will last from Monday through May 31, but the room will only be closed from Monday through May 13. Aerobics classes will remain at the center, but held in different rooms. Call 254-7597 for scheduling information.

Campground and Picnic Sites — For picnic and camping sites, MCB

Hawaii offers some of the most scenic beaches on the island.

Three of those beaches, Pyramid Rock, Hale Koa and Fort Hase are available by reservation for picnics and parties from dawn to dusk. Hale Koa Beach may also be reserved for overnight camping.

Reservations are required. For reservations, call 254-7666 for Kaneohe or 477-5143 for Camp Smith.

Semper Fit Center Offers it All — The Semper Fit Center has an aerobics class for anyone and everyone trying to meet fitness goals. Check out as many of the following programs as you would like: Yoga, Cycling, Tai Chi, Cardio-Kick, Gut Cut, Step-Challenge, Water Aerobics, Pilates, Marathon Training and much, much more.

For class information, call the Semper Fit Center at 254-7597.

Fishing Charters Available at MCB Hawaii — Spend the day aboard one of Mahalo Kai's charter fishing boats.

Mahalo Kai has been serving MCB Hawaii since 1992, offering a day of fishing in the bountiful waters off the Windward side.

For more information, stop by the Base Marina located in Building 1698, across from Hangar 101, or call 254-7666/7667.

Inexpensive, Fun Entertainment — Look no further for economical entertainment Mondays through Thursdays at the K-Bay Lanes where all E-5 and below can receive free rental shoes and discounted games at only \$1.50 a game.

This discount is good for open play, but does not qualify for tournaments, leagues or unit functions. Call the K-Bay Lanes at 254-7693 to get the spin.

Color Pin Special — Every Wednesday, roll a strike. When a colored pin is in the headpin position, you can win up to three free games of bowling. All patrons are welcome to take advantage of this deal. If you make the play, you win! Call the K-Bay Lanes at 254-7693.

Parents for Fitness — This cooperative baby-sitting effort is available at the Semper Fit Center for children 6 weeks and older.

All active duty servicemembers and their families may participate; however, PFFP participants are required to volunteer baby-sit three times per month.

Call 235-6585 for more information.

Paintball Hawaii — Weekend single-day cost is only \$25 per person, and the fee includes one air refill, equipment and the field fee.

The field is open on weekends. Call 265-4283 for Friday appointments.

Semper Fit Group Exercise April 2005

Monday

8:45 – 10 a.m. — Step 2 It
11:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. — Gut Cut
4:45 – 5:45 p.m. — Cycling (\$3 / \$1 active duty)
5:45 – 6:45 p.m. — Kick Interval
6:45 – 7:45 p.m. — Pilates

Tuesday

6 – 7 a.m. — Cycling (\$3 / Free to active duty)
8:30 – 9:30 a.m. — Muscle Conditioning
9:30 – 10:30 a.m. — Yoga
11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. — H.I.T.S.
11:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. — Butt Cut
6:30 – 7:30 p.m. — Step & Tone

Wednesday

6 – 7 a.m. — H.E.A.T.
8:45 – 10 a.m. — Step Challenge
11:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. — Gut Cut
4:45 – 5:45 p.m. — Cycling (\$3 / \$1 active duty)
6:45 – 7:45 p.m. — Pilates

Thursday

6 – 7 a.m. — Cycling (\$3 / Free to active duty)
8:30 – 9:30 a.m. — Muscle Conditioning
11:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. — Butt Cut
11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. — H.I.T.S.
6:30 – 7:30 p.m. — Step & Tone

Friday

8:45 – 10 a.m. — Step 2 It
11:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. — Gut Cut
4:45 – 5:45 p.m. — Cycling (\$3 / Free to active duty)
5:45 – 6:45 p.m. — Pilates

Saturday

9 – 10:30 a.m. — Step & Tone

Note: A book of 10 single-class coupons for \$2 each can be purchased for \$15 at the Semper Fit Center.

COMMUNITY SPORTS

HTMC to Hike Kalani

Join the Hawaii Trail and Mountain Club May 8 and May 14 for some challenging hikes here on Oahu.

May 8 at 8 a.m., the club will be hiking to Kuolani-Waianu. A 5-mile hike, located deep in Waiahole Valley, we ford a stream or two and take the old ditch trail, following the contour of the mountains. Watch for the bird-nest ferns. The loop route provides variety and panoramic views. Coordinator is Doug Klein, at 235-8330.

May 14 at 8 a.m., hikers will be taking on Kawaewae, a 3-mile ridge hike in Kaneohe. We start in the pleasant Friendship Gardens in residential Kaneohe with an easy hillside stroll, but the route quickly moves a bit beyond the "novice" category. The views are great and provide a different perspective on Kaneohe and the Bay. Contact coordinator Dayle Turner, at 384-4821 or turner@hawaii.edu. A \$2 donation is requested for each nonmember, 18 and older. A responsible adult must accompany children under 18. Bring lunch and water on all hikes and wear sturdy shoes and clothing. Firearms, pets, radios and audio devices are prohibited on hikes.

Check out the HTMC Web site at www.geo.cities.com/Yosemite/Trails/3660 for more information. For detailed information, call coordinator Joyce Oka at 384-2221 or 735-2220.

2005 Sports Car Racing Gears Up

The Hawaii Region Sports Car Club of America will host six major races in 2005 and Solo II races on Oahu and Maui.

Solo II, or Autocross, is held at the Hawaii Raceway Park at Campbell Industrial Park on Oahu and costs \$25 per driver. About 70 to 90 cars, from stock vehicles to race cars, usually compete. The event is purely amateur, but anybody can participate.

Each driver receives four runs through the sports car course, and the driver with the single fastest time in the class wins.

Points acquired throughout the year accumulate for prizes and trophies presented at year's end. Minimum participation in more

than half of the year's races is required to be in the running for points and the run-off championship.

Races are scheduled as follows: May 1, June 5, July 3, Aug. 14, Sept. 18, Oct. 2, Nov. 13 and Dec. 26. For more details, call Curtis Lee at 262-5987.

The Wheel-to-Wheel and Solo I racing events are regional sports car races at Hawaii Raceway Park. All drivers must pass a driver's school to obtain a competition license, as the cars are raced at speeds of up to 140 mph and passing is permitted. Both the driver and vehicle must comply with a number of safety features before they are granted race entry. Future races will be on the following dates: May 15, July 10, Sept. 5 and Nov. 26.

For more details, call Ed Hollman at 488-1782.

MPRRC to host 10K runs

The Mid-Pacific Road Runners Club will host a 10k run on the Pearl Harbor bike path, May 8 at 7 a.m. The race will begin at Lehua School.

There will be an elite division along with age divisions. Another 10-mile run will take place at Schofield Barracks, May 22 at 6:30 a.m. MPRRC members pay only \$2 to register; the general public pays \$5.

Runners can register online at www.active.com or sign up on race day. Directions to Lehua School are available at www.mprrc.com/cdphbikepath.html.

Bikefactory to Host Triathlon

Mokuleia Beach Park on Oahu's North Shore will be the setting of the Tarlavsky's North Shore Triathlon 2005, May 28. The race will begin at 6 a.m. and consist of a 400-meter swim, 10-mile bike ride and a 3-mile run.

The race is in honor of Army Capt. Mike Tarlavsky, who was killed in Iraq, Aug. 12, 2004.

Classic beverage stein awards will go to the top three finishers in each individual division and mugs will go to members of top three teams in each division.

Individual divisions include: elite, age groups in five year increments and military for both men and women. Relay divisions include: men, women, military and mixed.

North Shore residents may pick up packet at Mokuleia Beach Park on May 27, from 4 to 7 p.m. Honolulu residents may pick up their packet at Boca Hawaii, 330 Cooke St. (behind Bike Factory) May 22 and 23, from noon to 4 p.m. Please make every effort to come to packet pickup; there will be a \$5 charge to pick up your packet on race day.

Registration costs are \$60 per individual and \$100 per team. Check-In and race marking will be race morning from 4:30 to 5:45 a.m. Volunteers are welcome and will receive a shirt and refreshments. For more information call Chris Gardner at 372-8885.

State Offers Outdoor Education

The Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources is offering education classes to the public. Subjects covered include firearms and archery safety, survival and first aid, wildlife identification and conservation, regulations, game care and outdoor responsibility. Attendance at two sessions is required for certification, and classes are open to anyone 10 and older who enjoy the outdoors — not just hunters.

The next two-day session is Friday from 5:45 to 10 p.m. and May 7 from 7:45 a.m. to 4 p.m. in classroom A-212A at the Nimitz Business Center, 1130 N. Nimitz Hwy. (Drive up the ramp to the classroom, which is the first room on the right.) A picture ID is required for entry to the sessions. For more information about outdoor education, or to sign up for this course, call 587-0200 or visit www.hawaii.gov/dlnr/Welcome.html.

Mango Days 5K to benefit The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society

The 5K course is completely contained in beautiful Ala Moana Beach Park. All proceeds support The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society in finding a cure for blood cancers. The race kicks off June 5 at 6:30 a.m.

Registration fees are \$20 for individuals and \$20 for the baby jogger division. A post-race breakfast banquet will be held at Compadres for \$8. Breakfast is limited to 300 people. Register online at www.active.com through June 2. Packet pick-up is June 4 at Niketown Honolulu. Overall awards will be given for the top three male and female, overall masters

male and female, 10 year age categories, three deep. There is also an additional category for baby joggers with prizes, compliments of Stroller Strides.

Hawaiian Half-Marathon

The 5th Annual Hawaiian Half-Marathon will start at 5 a.m. on June 12 at Ala Moana Park Drive next to the Waikiki Yacht Club. Participants should be at the start by 4:45 a.m. The 5-Mile walk will start at 7 a.m. on Monsarrat Avenue., in front of the Waikiki Shell. Race packets can be picked up at the Running Room, 819 Kapahulu Ave., June 10, from 4 to 7 p.m., or at Runners Hawaii, 98-390A Kamehameha Hwy., June 11 from 9 to 4 p.m. Friends or relatives may pick up packets with a valid ID.

Parking will be available in the Magic Island parking lot only until 4 a.m. No vehicles will be allowed to enter or exit Ala Moana Park after 4 a.m. No parking will be permitted on Ala Moana Boulevard. or Ala Moana Park Drive. Parking will be permitted in the Waikiki Bandstand and Waikiki Shell Parking lot. The Honolulu Zoo parking lot will also be available. There will be a clothing drop off at the entrance of Magic Island and all clothing must be picked up at Kapiolani Park no later than 9 a.m.

Restrooms will be available in the start area; however, it is recommended that you use the restroom at your home or hotel prior to coming to the race. It is recommended that you drink plenty of water 24 hours prior to the race. Water aid stations will be approximately every 2.5 miles along the race. Should you need medical assistance, medical personnel will be on duty in the finish line area. Upon completion of the race, proceed to the bandstand area for refreshments and the awards ceremony, which will be held at approximately 8:30 a.m.

For more information, send an email to HawaiianHalfMarathon@kihnhn.com, or to volunteer, call RRH Productions LLC at 923-0492.

Hawaii Marine Accepts Briefs

Advertise sports and recreational activities of interest in the *Hawaii Marine*.

E-mail items to editor@hawaiimarine.com or fax items to 257-1289.



The Bottom Line

(Editor’s Note: “The Bottom Line” is the **Hawaii Marine’s** weekly sports commentary from two sports aficionados who rarely see eye-to-eye when it comes to America’s one true obsession — sports. Chances are you’ll either agree with one of their takes or disagree with both. The **Hawaii Marine** welcomes your e-mails of no more than 250 words. We will print the top comment of the week from our readers. Send “Readers Strike Back” comments to editor@hawaiimarine.com. Remember, “If you don’t speak up, you won’t be heard.”)

Back in the mix, or an NFL mix-up?

Sgt. Joe Lindsay
The Goat

Picking the winners and losers of the NFL draft before any of the players have played a down is a little like being told to perform final drill by your drill instructor on the first day of boot camp. That being said, “By the right flank, read.”

Winners
Arizona Cardinals: After this years NFL Draft, there is no way Dennis Green is going to lose to the 49ers twice in 2005, even with Alex Smith landing in San Francisco with the number-one overall pick. Handing the Niners their only two wins of the season last year was embarrassing, but it isn’t enough to be their motivational calling card.

Rising from the ashes of mediocrity like a Phoenix is more like it. Hey, if the Suns can turn it around in one year, why not the Cardinals?

Taking Miami’s Antrel Rolle with the 8th pick made more than just a little sense, considering Arizona’s problems at corner last year. Nabbing Cal’s J.J. Arrington, the nation’s leading rusher, with the 44th selection was just icing on the cake. Never mind that Virginia guard Elton Brown, a fourth-round pick, is good enough to start off the bat. Not saying they are going to be celebrating a Super Bowl victory in the desert this season, but the Cardinals definitely made people stand up and take notice with their astute draft selections. Arizona is a team on the rise.

Oakland Raiders: Al Davis, you sly dog you.

After trading blankets and trinkets to Minnesota for Randy Moss in the off-season, Davis out did himself once again in this year’s draft by trading Doug Jolley and moving up to select CB Fabian Washington from Nebraska with the 23rd selection. Washington will be one of the faster guys in the NFL next year, and if he ever runs into trouble, he’ll have Stanford Routt, a DB from Houston, who the Raiders nabbed with the 38th pick, to help him out. On top of all that, the Raiders got some quarterback insurance by landing Arizona State’s Andrew Walter with the 69th pick.

To all who question Al Davis’ genius, just remember, South Carolina’s Troy Williamson might turn out to be a good wide receiver for the Vikings, but he’ll never be worth losing Manhattan.

Losers
Detroit Lions: After taking wide receivers with top 10 picks in the last two drafts, the Lions felt that it was the perfect time to do exactly the same thing again. Mike Williams, a partner in the Claret, Robbins and Williams Law Firm based in Deliverance, Penn., has spent more time litigating than playing football this past year. Detroit would have been better served by taking any one of the 10 selections following Williams, all of whom were defensive players.

Hopefully, fellow Trojan Shaun Cody, a DT taken with the 37th pick, is as good as Detroit thinks he is. You have got to believe Matt Millen

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Capt. K.D. Robbins
The Professor

Take away the world’s strongest marketing machine, the legacy of Bronko Nagurski and Curly Lambeau and the national holiday known as “Football Sundays,” and what do you have? The ultimate competition in professional sports, where parity is encouraged and one draft can make a difference. You have the NFL.

As “The Bottom Line” entertains our “Draft Review” annual football fix, the inherent beauty is that it’s April...and this is only the beginning:

Top 3:

- San Francisco 49ers* — When you’re down, there’s nowhere to go but up. The 49ers did what they could to restore their once glorious franchise to Bill Walsh-Joe Montana-Jerry Rice standards. Protecting QB Alex Smith, the best available QB in the draft, with C David Baas and T Adam Snyder and surrounding him with weapons like RB Frank Gore and WR Rasheed Marshall gives Niners fans hope. It will just take time.
- Minnesota Vikings* — History rarely sees a full-scale upgrade like the one the Vikings committed in the 2005 off-season. Dropping Randy Moss in exchange for draft picks and a defensive line change is what economists call a positive opportunity cost. The brilliance continued into the

draft from the acquisition of WR Troy Williamson and DL Erasmus James early and the steal of the draft, RB Ciatrick Fason in the fourth round.

- Arizona Cardinals* — Simple: CBs Antrel Rolle and Eric Green, LBs Darryl Blackstock and Lance Mitchell, RB J.J. Arrington and G Elton Brown will all start. That’s like striking gold...even for the Cardinals. Dennis Green makes things happen.

Bottom 3:

- New York Jets* — “And with their first pick in the 2005 NFL Draft, the New York Jets select, Mike Nugent, K, Ohio State...” Enough said.
- St. Louis Rams* — Taking a risk on character flaws like T Alex Barron and C Richie Incognito is not the way that this internal combustion franchise needs to go.
- Atlanta Falcons* — Is UAB WR Roddy White really a first-rounder? The list continues: LB Jordan Beck, LB Michael Boley, T Frank Omiyale...Who?

Bottom Line: The 49ers big miss appears to be Bay Area native TE Joe Lindsay from the University of San Diego. The former junior college basketball star reminds scouts of Chargers Pro Bowler Antonio Gates. His hands and route running have no downside...that said, Coach Nolan will take his chances with this crop of talented young stars.

Readers Strike Back

“As for the Professor ... you should be ashamed of yourself ... “

Dear Bottom Line,

Last week’s “Bottom Line” may have only been offensive to us religious readers, but the oh-so sacred music of hip-hop was abolished by the one the bottom line calls the Goat. However, it was at least a true representation of how most people talk about basketball.

Next time, just stay away from Jay-Z’s Hard Knock Life. As for the Professor, all but using the Lord’s name in vain, you should be ashamed of yourself for having no regards for the Christian faith.

Amy Goss
Auburn, Maine



One motivated Marine lets everyone in the surrounding area know that he has weathered the Swamp Romp storm. Every year, Combat Service Support Group 3 tries to improve the Swamp Romp to make it more enjoyable and attractive for participants. By the expression on this Marine's face, CSSG-3 was successful, this year, in providing a challenging, yet rewarding experience for military members and civilians alike.

Swamp Romp attracts 1,200

Story and photos by: Sgt. Joseph A. Lee
Sports Editor

Military members, civilians and adventure seekers from around Oahu joined Combat Service Support Group 3 Saturday for their 11th Annual JN Chevrolet Swamp Romp to raise money for this year's CSSG-3 Marine Corps Ball.

"Oahu's dirtiest footrace" began at the Boondocker building, neighboring the Marine Corps Exchange Annex parking lot at 7 a.m. on MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe

Bay. The starting gun gave the eclectic group of runners their first chance to get into the combat training mood, as the nearly 1,200 runners commenced to get dirty.

According to Marine Corps Community Services, the Swamp Romp boasts a course that gets even the grunts grueling every year. The event is open to the daring, and CSSG-3 and JN Chevrolet invite everyone and anyone who thinks they can hack it, to race.

See SWAMP, C-5



One eager racer speeds by another, more relaxed Swamp Romp competitor. While some treated the Swamp Romp as a competition and a race, others just participate every year to get as muddy as possible and to have a good time.



Left — Leanne Gutkowski flexes her muscles and lets out a roar of enthusiasm as she exits the deep creek. A member of the Installation Personnel Administration Center, Gutkowski and her team weren't afraid to roll up their sleeves and get more than just a little dirty, Saturday.

Above — One teammate hitches a ride, using every method imaginable to get through the muddy creek and into the Nuupia Ponds, Saturday. Teamwork was key in the Swamp Romp, and while some carried their teammates, there was no strategy that wasn't experimented with as teams found some areas of the course to be tremendously difficult to manage.

Right — A Swamp Romp competitor squints his eyes, trying to see through the thick mud. Covered from head to toe, some of the racers later regretted getting so "into" the race, as the Nuupia Ponds and the creek competitors swam through, goes by another, more commonly known name to base residents, due to it's not-so-pleasant smell.



SWAMP, From C-4

The teams of six were required to finish together, and teams that finished without a teammate were penalized 60 seconds from their total race time.

Leaving the Boondocker Landing Zone area, runners continued past the rappel tower into a thick mud pit and over a hill and a log-wall, before continuing along another treacherous 100-ft strip of mud that led to the back of LZ Boondocker to the street.

“That first part there was the most exciting part of the race for sure,” said Joe Au, intramural sports coordinator for MCCA. “People were just diving into the mud head first. It was awesome!”

According to Au, there was a huge crowd gathered at the first portion of the race, booing and heckling those who chose to take the dry route to avoid getting muddy. Cheers of excitement came from the crowd after every face-first nosedive. Runners circled back along the only paved portion of the route until they came to a slight decline into the “waste”-deep creek.

“It stunk to high heaven,” said Nathan DeWeerd of the Provost Marshal’s Office. “The mud under the water was up to your waist, and I could swear that something was eating my skin, but who knows.”

The race trail entered into the Nuupia Ponds, and it was there that participants met up with the most daunting por-

tion of the run — almost a quarter-mile stretch of waist-deep mud, where even the most fit of the 1,200 participants was slowed to sluggish pace. The trail continued through a pathway used primarily for armored, tracked vehicles, where the runners encountered a simulated combat environment. Sounds of machineguns blazing filled the Nuupia Ponds as the runners passed over, under and around a series of log obstacles. Just when they thought the torture had ceased, runners crossed Mokapu Road and were hit with a fire hose before commencing the beach-run portion and turning around in the ocean at Fort Hase Beach.

Somewhat relieved of the stinky mud, the runners continued their run along the beach, low-crawling their way back to Mokapu Road where they crossed again for the final leg of the near 5-mile run. As the teams looped around LZ Boondocker, it was painfully obvious what they had all just experienced, as some teams hobbled, hopped, were carried and crawled across the finish line.

“It’s been tremendous,” said coordinator, Regina Reiche of MCCA. “There were absolutely no hitches whatsoever, and everyone got completely covered in mud, which is exactly what we wanted, so it was a huge success. People said that it was a great course this year, and they were happy because they got what they wanted — to be completely



A few hardened Swamp Romp veterans take the knee-deep mud in stride, Saturday, during the Swamp Romp.

covered in mud.”

According to Reiche, the 197 teams of six that registered for the run was just three shy of their goal of 200 teams, far more than last year’s approximately 150 teams.

Col. Brian Hearnberger, commanding officer of CSSG-3, agreed that the event was a spectacular success.

“Everything has gone extremely well this year,” said Hearnberger. “We had more participants this year than the

last, and we hope to continue to help this thing grow by offering an even better Swamp Romp next year.”

After the event, runners showered and enjoyed complimentary refreshments while they awaited the announcement of the winners, which were as follows:

The overall first place winners were the “G-Men,” who could be identified by the words “Federal Agent” on the back of their T-shirts.

The women’s masters winners were Kelly Noonan’s “Wicked Cool.” For the young men, Gary Harbison’s team captured first, while the men’s masters first place winners were Tim Noonan’s “Why us?” The women’s open winners were “T&A,” or “Tactically Disadvantaged,” led by Maureen Manufeka. In the warriors category, Rob Adams’ team, “Steel Rain” captured gold, and the overall military team was “3rd Marine Nokadi,” led by Jason Kut.

The mixed-team winners were Mark Bustamante’s team, called “Living Aloha.”



Timm Heisey carries “Drunken Monkeys” teammate Sarah Nicholas through the thick mud of the Nuupia Ponds. All of the women on the team were from Hickam Air Force Base Dental clinic.

The “G-Men,” overall winners, dredge through the thick mud in a tight formations, passing the bulk of the competitors early, and not wasting any time at all through the thick mud of the Nuupia Ponds. The “G-Men” could be identified by the words “Federal Agent” on the backs of their T-shirts.



GOAT, *From C-3*

has orchestrated a behind the scenes trade agree- ment on this one, or else he's gonna end up hearing the phrase Donald Trump unsuccessful- ly tried to copyright.

New York Jets: The Jets literally gave their first round draft choice to Oakland for Jolley. Then, they went out and selected a kicker with the 47th pick. That's right, a kicker. Mike Nugent had a pretty good career at Ohio State, but when your top choice is a player who probably isn't going to end up being any better or worse than any other kicker who you could have landed in free agent camp, you've got problems. And, he's not even related to Ted.

To all the draft pundits who are shouting the Minnesota Vikings' praises, just remember what you gave up to get what you got. To all the

cheeseheads who are excited about their QB heir apparent - relax. Taking Cal's Aaron Rodgers wasn't a bad move given what we know, but Favre's magic isn't going to just automatically rub off on Rodgers. It's gonna take time, and considering how time moves slower in Green Bay, it was probably a pretty good fit. Bill Parcells earned his money in Dallas by taking Troy DE DeMarcus Ware with the 11th pick, though he just as easily could have gone with Maryland LB Shawne Merriman. Either way, it was a good move by the Cowboys.

Bottom Line: Still, it was the Cardinals and Raiders who scored touchdowns in this year's NFL draft. The Lions caught the ball, but instant replay showed they bobbled it and had only one foot in bounds, while the Jets shanked one off the goal post — on an extra point attempt.

MAG, *From C-1*

he moves on Monday to become part of the All-Marine Baseball team.

It was slow going for both teams early in the game, as the Headquarters Battalion team came out to the field Tuesday with an obvious determination not to have a repeat of Monday night. Both teams refused to allow runners on base, and while Larry Drake's pitching intimidated the Knights, smart fielding kept the Knights alive until the top of the third. When MAG batter, Carraway, drove in Coquillard and Chapin off a double to post the first two runs of the game, the Knights team collectively sighed, as if this was to be the start of another Monday night episode. Headquarters hung in in there though, and scored one in the fourth on a walk and a throwing error.

MAG-24 started the fifth with a single from Joseph Dunn, followed by a two-run home run by Logan Carraway to go up 4-1. Frustrated but not yet defeated, the Knights rallied together to keep their spirits high. But the scoring continued with a big MAG sixth inning, scoring four more off singles by Louis Overstreet, Chapin, Dunn, and Chris Bradley. Drake picked up the win, striking out three and allowing only one earned run, though Rigby closed out the game.

“After last year's disap- pointing loss, it really felt good to get this win,” admit- ted coach and third baseman Joseph Dunn, who went six for eight in the series. “The guys really stepped up their level of play towards the end. The bats came through, and our depth in pitching really proved its worth.”



Sgt. Joseph A. Lee

A Black Sox batter smacks a line drive early in Tuesday's game. The strong bats of MAG-24 quickly wore out the Knights bullpen.



Sgt. Joseph A. Lee

Aaron Bowman, Knights Pitcher, takes the mound from Dan Trevino Monday. The Knights had to recycle pitchers as they worked through their shallow bullpen throughout the series.

CLARK, *From C-1*

there one day. I'm going to personally put money on myself to get in.”

Clark said he plans on con- tinuing his training and is try- ing to form an Okinawa Wrestling Team.

Clark wants to form the team as a way to help train other Marines interested in trying out for the All-Marine Wrestling Team.

“There are several Marine wrestlers here that used to be teammates of mine,” said Clark. “We could be a big help to Marines pursuing their wrestling goals and dreams.”

Getting it Straight

In the April 22 edition of the *Hawaii Marine*, 1/12 was incorrectly cred- ited with defeating HSL- 37 in the playoffs. MCAF beat HSL-37, 50-49.

In the ‘baseball’ story, “ground-roll” double was mis-spelled, and should have read “ground-rule” double.